

REMARKS

Status Summary

Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 are pending in the present application, each of which presently stands rejected. Claim 1 is amended by the present amendment. No new matter has been introduced by the present amendment. Reconsideration of the application as amended and based on the remarks set forth hereinbelow is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 stands rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0128751 to Vandenameele-Lepla, hereinafter referred to as "Lepla", in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,820 to Hui et al., hereinafter referred to as "Hui", U.S. Patent No. 5,175,558 to DuPree, hereinafter referred to as "DuPree", and the admitted prior art. In addition, claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lepla in view of Hui, Dupree, and the admitted prior art, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,122,703 to Nasserbakht, hereinafter referred to as "Nasserbakht". The positions of the Examiner as summarized above with respect to claims 1, 2, and 4-6 are respectfully traversed as described below.

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner contends that Lepla discloses a weighting circuit for a receiver that is provided for receiving a multi-carrier signal, wherein the weighting circuit weights the carrier signals such that the spurious signal energy is of equal magnitude for all weighted carrier signals. The Examiner

acknowledges that Lepla fails to disclose several features of the present invention, including “wherein the memory is programmable via an interface connected to said memory through a plurality of internal data lines”, but the Examiner further contends that Lepla discloses a noise power spectrum measured off-chip and values for the carrier dependent weights programmed into a weight source **310**, and that DuPree discloses a weight memory **66** connected to a sequential update unit **56**, internal to system **24**. As a result, the Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to substitute one weight memory update scheme for the other such that the memory is updated via internal data lines.

As was previously submitted, however, the memory of the present claims is different in that it can be programmed externally via an interface circuit, which can be connected to the programmable memory via internal data lines, the programmable memory can be connected to a selector via address lines, and the selector can select a particular weighting coefficient set from a plurality of different weighting coefficient sets stored within the memory. The Examiner does not dispute that these features are not found in the cited references but only notes that these features are not recited in claim 1.

Thus to more affirmatively recite this feature of the claimed weighting circuit, claim 1 has been amended as indicated above to recite that the memory is programmable via an external interface connected to said memory through a plurality of internal data lines, and the programmable memory is connected to the selector via a plurality of address lines, the selector being capable of selecting a particular

weighting coefficient set from the plurality of weighting coefficient sets stored within the memory. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification as originally filed, for example at page 6, line 25, through page 7, line 2.

Specifically, as described in this section of the original specification, the programmable memory **9** can be programmed externally via an interface circuit **12**. The interface circuit **12** is connected to the programmable memory **9** via internal data lines **13**. The programmable memory **9** contains a plurality of weighting coefficient sets G_i as shown schematically in FIG. 7 by way of example. Each weighting coefficient set G_i contains a multiplicity of weighting coefficients G_i with the number N of weighting coefficients corresponding to less than or equal to the number of sub-bands SB within the transmission frequency band. The number N of different weighting coefficient sets G_i can be chosen and is 8, for example. The programmable memory **9** is connected to a selector **15** via address lines **14**. The selector **15** selects a particular weighting coefficient set G_i from a plurality of M different weighting coefficient sets which are stored within the memory **9**. To this end, the selector **15** generates an address for selecting the appropriate weighting coefficient set G .

It is respectfully submitted that both Lepa and DuPree are silent regarding these characteristics of the memory of the present claims. Specifically, neither reference discloses that the programmable memory is connected to the selector via a plurality of address lines, or that the selector is capable of selecting a particular weighting coefficient set from the plurality of weighting coefficient sets stored within the memory. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been

obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art to combine the weight memory **66** of DuPree to operate in accordance with the scheme of carrier dependent weights programmed into the weights source of Lepla. Further, even if such a combination was considered, the combination would not be the same as the claimed weighting circuit that recites a selector, the programmable memory being connected to the selector via a plurality of address lines, and the selector being capable of selecting a particular weighting coefficient set from the plurality of weighting coefficient sets stored within the memory.

As a result, for at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that Lepla, taken either alone or in combination with one ore more of Hui, Nasserbakht, DuPree, or the admitted prior art, fails to teach or suggest every element of the weighting circuit of independent claim 1, which includes "an estimation unit" and "a memory" as described above. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the claim allowed at this time. In addition, claims 2 and 4-6 depend upon claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above remarks apply equally to these claims, and therefore the rejections of claims 2 and 4-6 should likewise be withdrawn and the claims allowed at this time.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.


DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 9, 2011

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JLW/BJA/gwc

1406/324